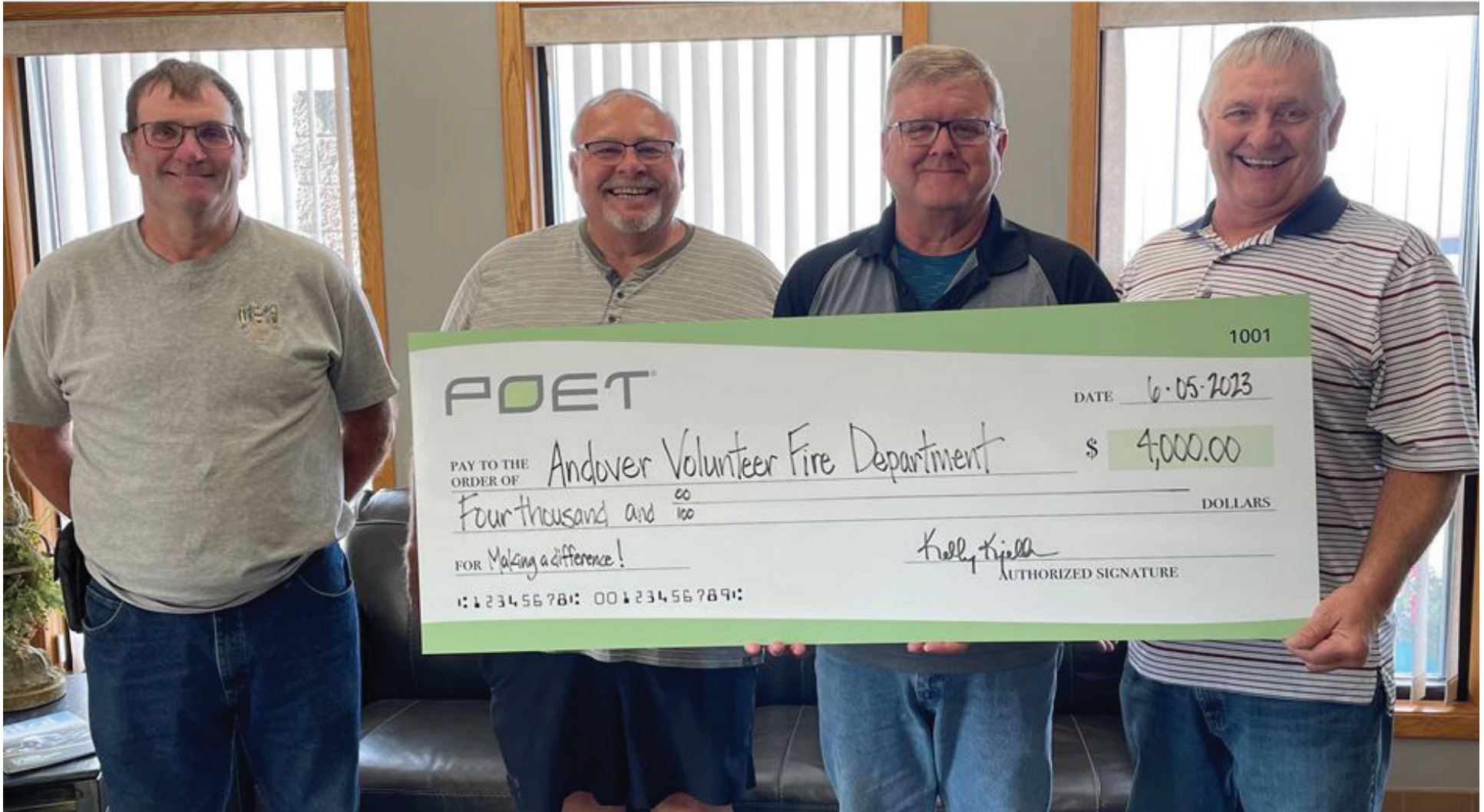




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The Groton Independent

Vol. 140 No. 40 ♦ Groton, SD ♦ Wednesday, June 21, 2023 ♦ Established in 1889



Andover Volunteer Fire Department receives POET's Gives Back Grant

POET's Gives Back grant program has given the Andover Volunteer Fire Department \$4,000 to help update 20-year-old bunker gear. The department has 24 volunteers and the bunker gear runs about \$2,500 per person. Kelly Kjelden, general manager of POET Bioprocessing - Groton, said, "POET's grant program is about giving back to the communities we call home. We are proud to support the Andover Volunteer Fire Department and help provide them with the resources they need to protect and serve our communities."

Pictured are Bill Lamee, Barry Smith, Kelly Kjelden and Torre Raap. (Courtesy Photo from POET)

Groton council reviews comfort station plans, airport improvements

by Elizabeth Varin

A new combined tornado shelter and bathroom facility at the Groton City Park could cost as much as \$600,000.

That was the estimate given to the City Council on Tuesday evening, though a price tag for the city itself is anticipated to be quite a bit lower.

Discussion centered on which of three plans the council wants to move forward with as it looks to apply for Federal Emergency Management Agency grant funding geared toward creating stormproof facilities.

The federal grant money could cover about 85 percent of eligible costs to build the comfort space, said Ted Dickey, program coordinator at Northeast Council of Governments. However, those costs will likely only include one stall per bathroom and not include showers.

The plans presented to the council include a men's restroom with two urinals and one handicapped toilet stall, two sinks and two five-foot by three-foot showers. The women's restroom would include three stalls, two sinks and two showers. There would also be a family restroom with one toilet and sink, as well as a standing room as the main portion of the tornado shelter and a utility room.

A FEMA grant would cover the standing room and some of the bathroom facility costs, but likely not the family bathroom, the showers and two stalls per bathroom, Dickey said. Those would fall on the city to pay for.

The council looked through three options for the façade of the building. Option No. 1 includes two-toned pre-cast concrete walls, trusses and a gable roof. The trusses and roof would be added on top of a concrete shell that makes up the tornado shelter.

Option No. 2 includes a single-color pre-cast concrete shell with a flat roof that includes an overhang. Option No. 3 would be the same single-color pre-cast concrete shell, but the flat roof would not include any overhang.

The floor plan presented to the council has a standing room area that is 424 square feet, said Dean Marske, president and principal architect at HKG Architects based out of Aberdeen. That would leave room for 42 people at 10 square-feet per person or 84 at 5 square-feet per person.

The whole facility would be built to withstand a tornado, so the general cost of construction will likely be included, he said. However, some individual costs may not be included in the grant.

Marske asked the council for direction on which building façade the city would like to pursue.

However, Dickey and the council asked Marske to itemize costs more to figure out which would be eligible costs for the grant and which would be costs the city has to cover.

Mayor Scott Hanlon asked the council to consider which façade option they prefer. Later in the meeting, he polled the council members.

Hanlon, along with council men Brian Bahr, Jon Cutler and Jason Wambach, preferred the flat-roof with an overhang option.

Councilwoman Shirley Wells said she preferred the gable-roof option, but was hesitant because the trusses would not be tornado-proof.

Councilwoman Karyn Babcock also said she preferred the first option.

"It's because it's pretty, and we're girls," she joked of the two female council members preference.

The flat roof with an overhang was Babcock's second choice, and she added the third choice looked too much like a jail instead of a nice city facility.

Hanlon asked the council to keep thinking on the options presented.

Roadway in the works at the Groton airport

The Groton airport is on the road to improvements... with a literal road in the works.

Darrell Hillestad reported he is getting farmers lined up to help haul dirt from the slough near the airport off of Highway 37 north of Groton. People from as far as Cresbard and Mina are coming to help move the dirt and create the roadway.

"It's going to be a lot of hauling. I'm not going to lie to you," he said. "...We're going to haul until we get sick of hauling."

"...This thing is getting crazy," he added. "People are hearing about it. We're trying to do it on a real tight budget. ...I'm not trying to spend your money, but we're trying to get an airport out here."

The immediate step is to get the road out there, he said. After that, he added, he hopes to have four hangars out there by next year.

Plans are already underway for the annual fly-in event, scheduled for September 9 and 10, Hillestad said.

Councilwoman Shirley Wells and Mayor Scott Hanlon thanked Hillestad for the work he has done and continues to do to make the airport a reality.

"If you build it, they will come," Hanlon said.

New vehicle on horizon for police department

The police department may look into a newer vehicle after multiple problems with an older

Continues on Page 5

Weekly Vikings Recap - Greatest Moments in Metrodome History

By Jack & Duane Kolsrud

Since the release of Dalvin Cook, it's been a slow news week for the Minnesota Vikings. There is speculation that Danielle Hunter might get traded, but until it happens, Hunter is still under contract for this upcoming season. That will be something to monitor over the few weeks until training camp starts.

As the offseason continues, the fun articles will do so as well. This week, we thought it would be fun to look back at the greatest Vikings moments in Metrodome history as this will mark 10 years since the final season in that historic stadium.

Adrian Peterson rushes for 296 yards (2007)

Not often was the Metrodome home to record-breaking performances, but on November 4, 2007, the Vikings fans got to witness the greatest rushing performance in NFL history. Adrian Peterson, in just the eighth game of his hall-of-fame career, rushed for a record-breaking 296 yards against a very good San Diego Chargers defense. From that moment on, Adrian Peterson became the face of the Minnesota Vikings over the next decade.

Brett Favre to Greg Lewis (2009)

In Brett Favre's first home game as a Minnesota Viking, the team found themselves trailing the San Francisco 49ers with only 12 seconds remaining. However, the magic of Brett Favre, (a thing that Vikings fans had become familiar with over the years), came out as Favre found Greg Lewis in the back of the endzone to secure the Vikings' victory. The Vikings would go on to have an incredible season, thanks in part to the jolt of electricity that Favre's throw gave to the team and the Vikings' fanbase.

The Vikings blowout Dallas Cowboys in NFC Divisional Round (2009)

The Vikings entered their first game of the 2009 NFL playoffs against a Dallas Cowboys team that many experts predicted would beat the Vikings. However, the Vikings quickly quieted those doubters as the team destroyed the Cowboys, 34-3, thanks to Sidney Rice's three-touchdown performance. The Vikings' performance against the Cowboys was so impressive that they got accused of running up the score late in the game by some Cowboys' players.

Randy Moss's First Game in the NFL (1998)

After drafting Randy Moss in the first round of the 1998 NFL Draft, the Vikings opened the 1998 season against their former division rival, Tampa Bay Buccaneers. Immediately, Moss put

himself on the NFL map as he went for two touchdowns in the game. Not since Jim Brown had a player come in as a rookie and become the best player at his position, but that's what Moss did with his Week 1 performance.

Adrian Peterson Comes Up Nine Yards Short of Eric Dickerson's Record (2012)

Needing to win to get into the playoffs, the Vikings faced off against the Green Bay Packers in the final game of the 2012 season. However, the storyline coming to that game was not about the Vikings' playoff implications but rather that Adrian Peterson was 208 yards away from breaking Eric Dickerson's single-season rushing record. Given that Peterson had run for 210 yards against the Packers just four games earlier, many thought Peterson would break the record. However, Peterson fell nine yards short as he finished the game with 199 rushing yards and 2,097 rushing yards on the season.

Herschel Walker's First Game as a Viking (1989)

After the Vikings made the historic Herschel Walker trade, Walker quickly suited up to play in the Vikings' next game against the Green Bay Packers. Walker's performance in that game was impressive as he ran for 148 yards on only 18 carries. In Walker's first two touches, he had an electrifying 51-yard kickoff return that got called back on a holding penalty and a 47-yard run where he lost his shoe in the process. Sadly, this would be Walker's finest moment as a Viking and now the trade is known more for the Cowboys' successes from it rather than the Vikings'.

Barring some big Vikings news, we will continue this article next week with the worst moments in Metrodome history.

This column is gay

I caught an interview last weekend with author Juno Dawson about the recent banning of "This Book is Gay," which they wrote in 2015 as a sex education book focused on helping LGBTQ and straight kids understand each other and themselves. Dawson is transgender.

I can hear some of you now. "Hold it, Tony, can't you write about your grandpa's horse, the weather, or that one time at band camp...?"

Sure. But hang with me. I describe this weekly missive as "a human interest column," and this topic must interest a lot of people. Books are being banned and a chunk of society that's always been with us faces increasing, even legislated, discrimination.

As a writer, I'm concerned when people in power decide that words are a threat. It got me wondering when society decided that diversity, differences, and sex, even, were a threat.

Spoiler alert: We're all here because somebody did it. And it's OK.

I think it's OK, necessary, actually, to examine our societal hang-ups from time to time. When the aliens get here who's going to ex-



That's Life

by Tony Bender

plain to them why men can go topless on an American beach and women can't? And why do some people view the personal relationships of others as a threat?

Sexual diversity has always been with us. After a local politician railed against it in a political reorganization meeting, I talked with him. "You love who you love," I said.

"You know," I said in a conversation with a conservative employee, "Same sex relationships are like any marriage. It's not all about sex." ("You got that right," many of you are saying.) Like all relationships, it's primarily about companionship.

In Native American communities, the term "two-spirits" reflects such natural societal diversity.

I haven't read Dawson's book, but as an ally, I think I will. You don't have to understand diversity to accept it, but it helps. Education is the key to everything.

We've been fumbling around with sex education for a long time. In sixth grade, in a very clandestine manner, the girls were pulled out of the classroom and herded to a dimly-lit basement room to talk about "girl things." There was a slide show and everything. (I peeked.) It must have been horrible—they may have been sworn to secrecy—because they never talked about it.

When I became the single parent of a freshman girl, however, I become well-acquainted those mysteries. It's been as natural as any discussion about anything, and I still remember India calling me her "best friend," because it meant we could talk about anything. And do.

But give educators credit. Coming out of the free love 60's, they knew it had to be done. They just didn't know how.

I remember the county nurse's first attempts to explain to a room full of junior high boys why a light breeze produced an turgidity worthy of four-hour Viagra warnings. Ah, the good old days. When we submitted written, anonymous questions to the young woman, some of us wondered if she could help us with that. Her solution was a good hard slap to the offending appendage, thus, our introduction to S&M.

There was enormous pressure on educators and parents to educate children, and years later, my father's cold sweats at the breakfast table finally made sense when he worked up the courage to have "the talk." By then, I was no longer a virgin. "Thanks, Dad. Got it covered." I didn't, but neither of us were willing to surrender the enormous relief that sentence provided.

Like most boys of the era, I was small-town provincial. "Anyone ever offers me drugs," I'm gonna punch 'em in the schnoz," I declared. "Any (gay slur) every comes on to me, I'll kick their a--."

So much for that. On the second count, I was in a Denver nightclub when a musician in Jill Sobule's band politely approached me. I let him down easy. "I'm sorry, I don't swing that way, but I'm flattered." I really was, but I had an enormous crush on Jill—everyone who saw her sing did—but she turned out to be gay, too! We became friends, though.

I had Black, Jewish, Muslim, Hindu, and gay friends and coworkers. Still do. Everyone knows someone who is gay. Even if you think you don't.

One night, the biggest, burliest disc jockey in town—a big star—confided in me the difficulties he faced as a gay man. It was a surprise and a revelation. A very human moment. If it was tough for him in the diversity of the city, imagine what it's like living in a small town where provincial attitudes still percolate. But even in small North Dakota towns, we've come a long way. Our communities are more diverse. We even have Finlanders.

We evolve. I don't think the politics of the day reflect the hearts of most people.

It's not a choice. We are who we are. We love who we love.

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South Dakota population on track to top 1 million by 2030 after 'significant' growth

Stu Whitney

South Dakota News Watch

A trend of surging domestic migration to South Dakota that began during the COVID-19 pandemic could put the state's total population above 1 million residents as early as 2030.

That growth pattern runs counter to other Midwestern states and highlights the fact that more people are moving to South Dakota than leaving, and that women in the Mount Rushmore State are giving birth at a greater rate than the national average.

"It's a significant trend," said Augustana University economics professor David Sorenson, who published a study showing the state's population spikes came despite a sharp increase in deaths during the pandemic in 2020-21.

Net migration between July 1, 2021, and July 1, 2022, and a nation-leading fertility rate were the main reasons South Dakota ranked fifth in percentage of population growth (1.5%) among U.S. states during that span, Sorenson said. The only states with larger percentage increases were Florida, Idaho, South Carolina and Texas, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

As a region, Midwest states averaged negative 0.1% population growth from 2021 to 2022, and South Dakota's growth rate during that span is nearly four times higher than the national rate of 0.4%.

If that trend continues, Sorenson estimates that in seven to eight years South Dakota will leave the group of five states (and the District of Columbia) that have not exceeded the 1 million population mark: South Dakota, North Dakota, Alaska, Vermont and Wyoming.

Jared McEntaffer, CEO of the Dakota Institute, a nonprofit economic research and analysis organization in Sioux Falls, said the trend will likely last even if some of those moving from different states did so for pandemic-related reasons, such as fewer restrictions in South Dakota under Republican Gov. Kristi Noem.

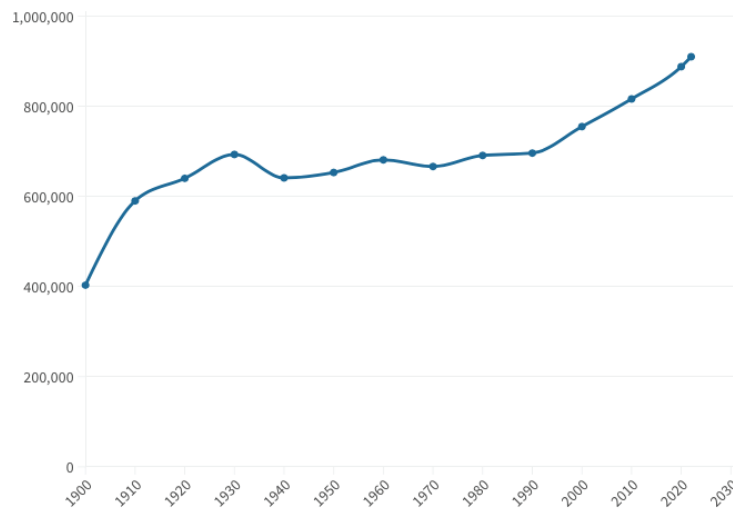
Some of the biggest migration gains for South Dakota, according to Internal Revenue Service data from 2020 to 2021, came from Democratic-controlled states such as California (net increase of 1,669), Colorado (955) and Minnesota (906). For comparison, the net gain from those states pre-COVID (2018-19) was 691 for California, 250 for Colorado and 12 for Minnesota.

"I would not be surprised if net migration stayed higher for a number of years, especially if South Dakota is able to start attracting a greater number of Minnesotans," said McEntaffer, a former economics professor at Penn State University.

South Dakota's total fertility rate, which calculates birth rates from different age groups to estimate how many children a typical woman would have, was 2.07 in 2021, which ranked first in the nation, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The national average was 1.7.

South Dakota population growth

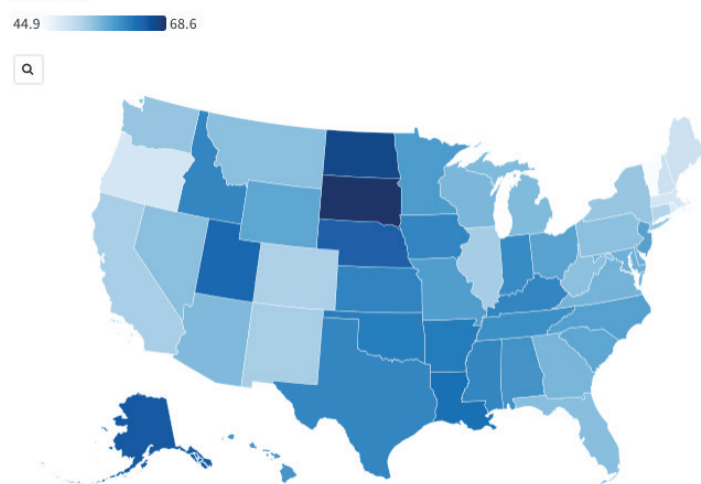
The latest population report has the state at 909,824 residents in 2022. South Dakota's population has grown by more than 150,000 since 2000.



Source: U.S. Census • Graphic: Michael Klinski / SD News Watch

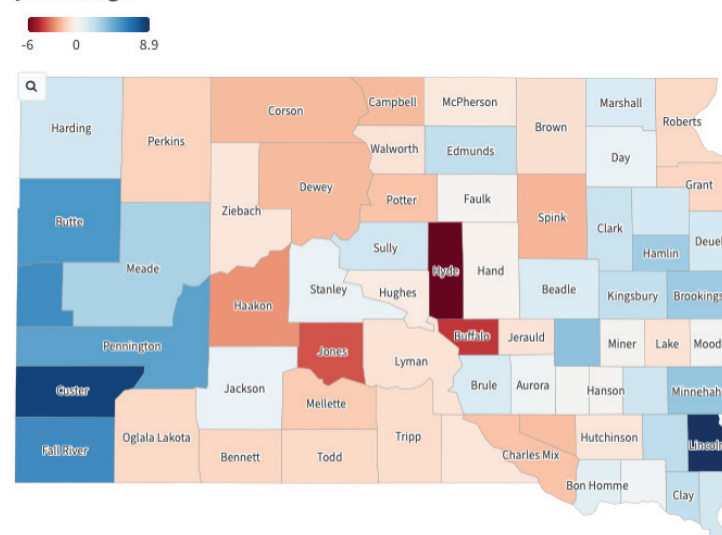
Fertility rates by state (2021)

Data show the number of live births per 1,000 women of reproductive age (15-44 -- CDI definition)



Source: CDC.org • Graphic: Michael Klinski/SDNewsWatch

South Dakota county population change from 2020-22, by percentage



Source: US Census • Graphic by Michael Klinski / SD News Watch

Sorenson noted that South Dakota was the only state to have a total fertility rate close to the replacement rate of 2.1 children per woman. Replacement rate is the level at which a population replaces itself from one generation to the next, not counting migration.

South Dakota leads nation in total fertility rate

South Dakota's fertility rate is partly explained by the state's relatively high Native American population of 8.6%. From 2018 to 2020, the number of live births per 1,000 women among Native Americans in South Dakota was 104.7, compared to 65.3 for whites.

Sorenson points out that population growth is measured by natural increase (births minus deaths) and migration data. His study showed that South Dakota deaths varied between 6,782 and 8,015 between 2000 and 2019 before "shooting up nearly 25% to 9,867 in 2020-21 and remaining at a relatively high 9,231 in 2021-22."

The South Dakota Department of Health estimates that 3,231 individuals have died with COVID-19 infection in South Dakota as of June 19, 2023.

The pandemic initially slowed movement from state to state, with South Dakota's net migration slightly negative in 2019-20. In 2021 and 2022, however, the state gained more than 6,000 new residents each year, a rate greater than Iowa, Nebraska, and Minnesota.

"South Dakota has outperformed these neighboring states in virtually every year since 2003," Sorenson wrote in his study. "For most of that time, Iowa, Nebraska and Minnesota had negative net migration, with Iowa and Nebraska's worst years coming around 2000 and Minnesota's occurring in the most recent two years."

Sioux Falls' transformation sparks metro growth

From 1930 to 1990, South Dakota's average decade population growth statewide was 0.2%, including decreases in the 1930s and 1960s. The state grew by just 0.8% from 1980 to 1990, bringing the population to 696,004.

Sioux Falls' changing identity and economy in the 1990s helped move the needle, spurred by Citibank's decision in 1981 to move its credit card operation to South Dakota's largest city to capitalize on bank-friendly usury laws.

Sioux Falls, touted by Money Magazine in 1992 as the best place to live in America, transitioned from an agriculture-based economy to a burgeoning financial center and health care hub, heralding its affordability and open spaces on the way to staggering growth.

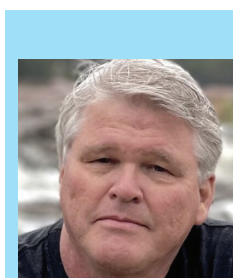
For the next three decades, the state averaged 8.5% population increases, moving from 754,844 in 2000 to 816,193 in 2010 and 887,799 in 2020.

Much of that was fueled by Minnehaha County, which averaged 10-year increases of 16.9% during that span. But many of the same motivations that led people to move to South Dakota spurred growth to the "suburbs" of Lincoln County, which consisted of just 15,427 residents in 1990 and has now surpassed 70,000, with average decade growth of 62.9% from 1990 to 2020.

Lincoln County's population grew by 8.2% from 2020 to 2022, compared to 4.6% for Pennington County (Rapid City) and 3.3% for Minnehaha. It ranked 23rd among all U.S. counties with a 4% increase in housing units from July 1, 2020, to July 1, 2021, according to the Census Bureau.

"A lot of that (Lincoln County) growth is obviously spillover from Sioux Falls," said Sorenson. "But when you look at communities like Harrisburg and Tea, they're also serving as independent magnets for people who want to be in a metropolitan area but appreciate more of a small-town living environment."

— This article was produced by South Dakota News Watch, a non-profit journalism organization located online at sdnewswatch.org.



ABOUT STU WHITNEY

Stu Whitney is an investigative reporter for South Dakota News Watch. A resident of Sioux Falls, Whitney is an award-winning reporter, editor and novelist with more than 30 years of experience in journalism.

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Brown County June 13, 2023

Meeting Minutes

JUNE 13, 2023 – GENERAL MEETING

Meeting called to order by Vice-Chairman Fjeldheim at 8:45 A.M. in the Commission Chambers, Courthouse Annex, Brown County, SD. Present were Commissioners Dennert, Fjeldheim, Wiese, Gage, and Sutton. Commissioner Gage led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Commissioner Wiese moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Dennert. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT: Jared Bossly urged the Commission to extend the moratorium through the permit process. Then he had a question for the State's Attorney office regarding Surveyors' affidavits, lying and charges for perjury.

BID – SURPLUS PROPERTY – 2914 INDUSTRIAL AVE: Time and place, as advertised to open, read and consider sealed bids for Surplus Property - 2914 Industrial Ave. Bids were received from Tracy Feist @ 0.00 and Jay Harris @ \$3,600,000.00. Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dennert to postpone the decision so Ross Aldentaler, State's Attorney could review the bids. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE #245 – FIRST READING: Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Gage to approve the First Reading of Proposed Ordinance #245. Applicants Steven Rosow requesting to rezone from Agriculture Preservation District (AG-P) to Mini-Agriculture District (M-AG) for Lot 1 to bring this parcel into compliance for its future use: Proposed Lot 1. "Steven Rosow Subdivision" in the NW ¼ of Section 6-T121N-R61W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (40025 142nd St., Garden Prairie Twp.). All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE #246 – FIRST READING: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Fjeldheim to approve the First Reading of Proposed Ordinance #246 – to amend portions of Title 4 Zoning, Chapters 4.06 Agriculture Preservation District (AG-P), Chapter 4.14 Highway Commercial District (HC), Chapter 4.15 Light Industrial District (L-I). The proposed ordinance will be made available for public inspection at the Brown County Auditor's Office or Brown County Planning & Zoning Office during regular business hours. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

BROWN COUNTY AWARDS PROGRAM: Scott Meints, Emergency Management Director met with the Commission to discuss the proposed Awards Program that have been talking about this for a year. Scott mentioned that he felt that there are a lot of good deeds done in our Community both with our County employees, First Responders, Public/Volunteers and Businesses and he thinks it time to honor these folks and/or businesses. Scott stated this was a proposal or if they wanted to proceed with the Awards Program, 6 possible awards at minimal costs to County. Commissioners agreed that this would be a good program and that Scott can proceed with the program.

Commissioner Fjeldheim informed Scott Meints that Westport has their July 4th celebration and they close Main Street off on June 24th from 10am to 6pm so asked him to notify the proper organizations such as Fire Department, Police Department and Sheriff Department and the

alternate routes.

ABERDEEN AMATEUR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION LEASE AGREEMENT: Moved by Commission Fjeldheim, seconded by Wiese to approve and authorize Chairman Sutton to sign the Lease Agreement between Brown County and Aberdeen Amateur Hockey Association from retroactive August 20, 2022 to September 1, 2032. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

EMINENT DOMAIN MOVEMENT: Dennis Feickert and Freddie Robinson met with the Commission to ask for 2 Commissioners to join their Eminent Domain Movement. Dennis started out by Thanking the Commissioners along with District 3 Representatives, Carl Perry & Brandei Schaeferbauer for their vigilance on the Carbon Pipeline. The 18 counties that are affected by the Summit Carbon Pipeline have started an Eminent Domain movement and wanting 2 Commissioners from each County to work with Legislators to get rid of Eminent Domain for private gain. They shared a Resolution that McPherson County passed and letter from Ziebach County. Dennis stated that the SD Association of County Commissioners needs to step-up and be a part of this, also. Hand County invited Dennis to come and visit with their Commissioners, also. Freddie commented that if you really pay attention to the words of the Pledge of Allegiance it sheds some light on the private property. He feels that if 2 individuals with Jared's ordeal were required to take a polygraph test and if they failed then those individuals should go to jail. We are talking about private property, apparently what's mine is not mine anymore. Mike Klipfel from McPherson County has 5 sections and 5 quarters of land being impacted by the Carbon Pipeline – he read a homestead document – states this tract of land is devoted to the Lessor to have and to hold from this day forward and all the prudence there of to send to his heirs or his designees forever – private property was very important back then and we have lost that but need to get this back. Representative Perry shared a quote from Thomas Jefferson "Agriculture is wisest pursuit because of it will in the end contribute most to real wealth, good morals and happiness" and stated that Agriculture is what we are all about in South Dakota, we need to protect our farmers. Perry stated "No Eminent Domain for Private Gain" is a really good theory, it's the thing we need to be doing. Feickert also shared that District 23 Legislators are working on this issue as well. Commissioner Wiese shared a comment that State Regulations that govern Trespass Ordinance in the State of South Dakota deserves a review as well. No action was taken at this time.

MINUTES: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Gage to approve the General Meeting minutes of June 6, 2023. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

CLAIMS: Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Wiese to approve the following claims: Insurance: SD Assoc of County Commissioners \$2,971.00. Professional Fees: AgTerra Technologies, Inc \$466.02; Avera St. Luke's Hospital \$25.71; Carrels & Bain Family Dental Care, LLC \$921.02; Certified Languages International LLC \$287.10; Child's Voice Route #6361 \$500.00; Dacotah Bank \$40.00; Dakota Group LLC \$2,100.00; Helms & Associates \$1,927.80; Horizon Health Care, Inc \$570.57; Kristi Brandt \$63.70; Language Line Services, Inc \$261.19; LexiNexis Risk Data Mgt, LLC \$200.00; Northeastern

Mental Health Center \$1,274.00; Sanford Aberdeen ED \$110.93; Sanford Health Occupational Medicine \$552.00; Sanford Health \$8.57; Satellite Tracking of People, LLC \$1,599.00; SD Dept of Revenue & Regulations \$4,403.26; Thomson Reuters-West Payment Center \$283.30; Tyler Technologies, Inc \$130.00; Yankton County Sheriff's Office \$50.00. Publishing: Groton Daily Independent \$117.67; Hub City Radio \$15,000.00. Rentals: Dakota Electronics \$4,498.20; Pantorium Cleaners Inc \$155.52. Repairs & Maintenance: Anderson Electric \$1.76; Anthony Cooper \$7,000.00; B&B Contracting, Inc \$7,875.00; Century Business Products \$66.12; Dakota Electronics \$90.00; Diesel Machinery, Inc \$15,275.50; Ecolab Pest Elimination Division \$125.83; Fire Safety First LLC \$1,103.06; Graham Tire Inc \$1,168.00; Hanlon Brothers, LLC \$1,444.99; HF Jacobs & Son Const. Inc \$1,029.41; Hub City Roofing Inc \$320.00; Leidholt Electric, LLC \$613.00; Meister Mowing LLC \$930.00; Pantorium Cleaners Inc \$189.32; Pierson Ford Lincoln, Inc \$589.90; Precision Kiosk Technologies \$2,700.00; Sewer Duck, Inc \$85.00; Superior Jetting, Inc \$3,955.79; Team Lab \$49,568.75; Transource Truck & Equipment, Inc \$1,495.48; Vosika Fencing \$848.15. Supplies: A-1 Locksmithing \$737.00; Advance Auto Parts \$214.76; Agtegra Cooperative \$55,442.16; Anderson Electric \$86.25; Avera LTC Pharmacy Aberdeen \$5.21; Behnke Sand & Gravel \$33,890.76; Bimbo Foods USA, Inc \$782.60; Butler Machinery Company \$10,387.81; Cartney Bearing \$275.53; Century Business Products \$892.35; Cole Paper Inc \$1,202.81; Dakota Oil \$639.20; Diesel Machinery, Inc \$11,344.54; East Side Jersey Dairy Inc \$924.93; Farm Tire Service LLC \$2,120.00; FedEx \$66.08; Fire Safety First LLC \$65.80; GovConnection, Inc \$15.60; Ken's SuperFair Foods \$175.47; Kessler's \$121.42; Linde Gas & Equipment Inc \$385.39; Mac's Inc-Capital One Trade Credit \$180.70; Menards \$1,136.09; Pierson Ford Lincoln, Inc \$724.00; Pomp's Tire Service, Inc \$363.02; Quality Welding, Inc \$25.00; Runnings \$3,449.19; SHI International Corp \$160.00; Transource Truck & Equipment, Inc \$3,664.27; US Foods \$9,698.36; Van Diest Supply Company \$2,947.40; WEB Water Bottling Company \$37.50. Utilities: City of Aberdeen \$1,780.16; Midcontinent Communications \$85.39; Northwestern Energy \$1,515.61; State of South Dakota PMB 0112 \$120.87; Town of Frederick \$76.00; WEB Water Development Association, Inc \$172.00. Machinery & Equipment: Dakota Electronics \$5,655.00; Diesel Machinery, Inc \$48,950.00. Others: Office of Weights & Measures-SD Dept of Public Safety \$103.00; SD Assoc of County Officials \$812.00; SD Dept of Agriculture & Natural Resources \$4,727.02; SD Dept of Revenue & Regulations \$1,048,619.82. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

HR REPORT: Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Wiese to approve the following Human Resource Report submitted by Human Resources Assistant, Jessica Johnson: Acknowledge the transfer of Linn Kamin from Brown County Jail Administrator to Brown County Deputy Sheriff, FT; starting wage \$27.80/hour; effective June 11, 2023. Request to fill. Acknowledge employment ending for Hosea Kleinsasser, Brown County Landfill, FT; effective June 5, 2023. Request to fill. Acknowledge employment ending for Sydney Kamin, Brown County IT Intern; effective June 9, 2023. Request to fill a full-time position. Approve hiring of Rhaecine Sam as Brown County JDC Detention Officer, FT; starting wage \$20.67/hour; effective June 16, 2023. Approve hiring Paige Hull as Brown County Jail Detention Officer, FT; starting wage \$20.67/hour; effective June 12, 2023.

All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

LEASE AGREEMENTS: Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Wiese to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the following lease agreements: Melissa Barnett for lease of Club House for Wedding Reception on June 10, 2023; 4-H Horse Club for lease of Akkerman Arena on June 21, 2023; Brown

County 4-H for lease of The Expo Addition for Hub City Dairy Goat Show on June 5-12, 2023; Brown County 4-H for lease of Akkerman Open Horse Arena for Hub City 4-H Rodeo on July 1-2, 2023; Brown County 4-H for lease of Home Arts Building for Science Week on June 13-15, 2023; Rob VanMeter for lease of Richmond Lake Youth Camp Lodge for Family Reunion on July 3-5, 2023. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

CLAIM ASSIGNMENTS: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Fjeldheim to authorize and approve the Auditor sign the Claim Assignments against individuals to Credit Collections Bureau for the purpose of collecting liens. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

ABATEMENT: Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Wiese to approve the following abatement for tax year 2023: Ashley Culbertson, Parcel #31523 \$114.41. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

LOTTERY PERMIT: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Gage to approve and authorize Chairman Sutton to sign application, submitted by Aberdeen Hockey Association for a lottery to be held at the Odde Ice Center when all the tickets have been sold. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

AUDITOR'S REPORT OF ACCOUNTS FOR APRIL 2023: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dennert to approve the Auditor's Report of Accounts of April 2023 as follows: Total Cash and Checks on Hand \$7,700.00; Total Checking Account Balances \$37,752,857.78; Total Savings Account Balances \$1,725,447.42; Total Certificates of Deposit \$5,479,550.72; Grand Total Cash & Balances \$44,965,555.92. General Fund Cash and Investment Balances by Funds: General Fund \$19,138,087.52; Road & Bridge Fund \$2,219,749.14; Road & Bridge Fund – restricted \$423,243.27; 911 Service \$690,625.06; Emergency & Disaster \$174,756.60; Domestic Abuse \$936.76; Teen Court \$250.28; Grant \$32.11; JDAI \$33,188.93; Richmond Youth Camp \$0.00; 24/7 Sobriety \$19,880.17; ROD M & P \$92,199.17; American Rescue Plan Federal Grant \$0.00; Rural Access Infrastructure \$295,534.81; TIF Debt Service \$478,611.42; Landfill + cash change \$4,096,004.86; Landfill – restricted \$1,400,479.44; Trust and Agency Funds \$15,901,976.38; Grand Total General Fund Cash & Investments \$44,965,555.92. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

FIREWORKS DISPLAY PERMIT: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Gage to approve and authorize Chairman Sutton to sign the Fireworks Display Permit for Big Shots, Inc. for June 30, 2023, to be held at Brown County Speedway. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS: Chairman Sutton shared that due to the 4th of July Holiday being on a Tuesday, the Commission will be meeting on Thursday, July 6, 2023, that week.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None
ADJOURNMENT: Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Wiese to adjourn the Brown County Commission meeting at 9:08 a.m. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor

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Groton City Digger Truck Surplus

Notice of Surplus Property
 The Groton City Council has declared a 1992 Chevrolet C6500 Kodiak Digger Truck as surplus property. The truck will be sold through online public auction with BigIron Auctions (www.bigiron.com). Bid closing will take place on June 29, 2023 at 10:00 AM CDT. Please call 605-397-8422 with any questions.
 Published June 21, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$5.83 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 22265

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Frederick School June 7, 2023

Meeting Minutes

FREDERICK AREA SCHOOL
DISTRICT #6-2

Joint Board of Education
Meeting

June 7, 2023

The joint athletic cooperative meeting of the Frederick Area Board of Education and Leola Board of Education was called to order on June 7, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. by President Rich Schlosser at the Leola School District cafeteria. Frederick Area school board members present were Rich Achen, Jon Ellwein, Alex Hart and Eric Sumption. Leola school board members present were ReEtta Sieh, Richard Westphal, Trevor Zantow, Kristi Spitzer and Arnie Wollman. Others present were Superintendent/Athletic Director Jeff Koters, Superintendent Bev Myer, Athletic Director Brett Flemmer, Business Managers Shauna Severson and Kayla Casey. Others in attendance were Keenan Bauer, Jon Bender, David Clark, Neil Geffre, Val Geffre, Christine Koters, Marty Morlock, Holly Mueller, Jeff Mueller, Brock Pashen, Betty Pat Hutson, Trevor Van Tilburg and others via Zoom.

The meeting began with all present reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion 2023-134 Motion by Hart, second by Sumption to approve the agenda as presented. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Brock Pashen spoke during public comment.

Motion 2023-135 Motion by Sumption, second by Ellwein to commit to the athletic cooperative for the school years 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

Motion 2023-136 Motion by Ellwein, second by Achen to approve the purchase of volleyball uniform tops. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

A discussion was held on adding an additional assistant varsity coach in the sport of Volleyball. No action was taken.

A discussion was held on how to go about compensation for individuals when a coach need to be absent from an activity for an extended period of time. No action was taken.

Motion 2023-137 Motion by Sumption, second by Hart to reach out to our attorney for clarification on a salary being paid out of a custodial account and paying volunteers a \$1 salary; Athletic Directors from both schools will make the decision that is in the best interest of both districts. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

The football coaching salaries of Jeff Koters and Trevor Van Tilburg were discussed. Both boards agreed that the full amounts should be reconciled.

Reconciling mileage was discussed. Both boards agreed that moving forward, mileage should be reconciled. An amount per mile will be discussed and included in the athletic cooperative agreement.

Motion 2023-138 Motion by Ellwein, second by Sumption to approve the 2022-2023 reconciliation. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

The continuation of the strength and conditioning program was discussed. Both boards requested the position be advertised.

Motion 2023-139 Motion by Achen, second by Hart to approve the 2023-24 Sports Cooperative Agreement with the proposed changes. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

Motion 2023-140 Motion by Sumption, second by Achen to approve the 2023-24 Titan Student Activity Handbook with the proposed changes. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

The date for the fall coaches meeting and parent information meeting was set for August 2, 2023.

Junior high girls' basketball numbers and the need for a second coach was discussed. Contracts for 2023-24 have already been issued and approved. No action was taken.

Motion 2023-141 Motion by Achen, second by Hart to adjourn at 8:11 p.m. All voted aye, carried.

Rich Schlosser, President
Shauna Severson, Business Manager

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Columbia City June 14, 2023

Meeting Minutes

City of Columbia Council Meeting – June 14, 2023

CALL MEETING TO ORDER – 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL – Cara Dennert, Corey Mitchell, Cole Kampa, Trevor Meints, Emily Eichler, Meghan Butler

Community: Brent, Don, Linda Raba, Jeremy Dosch, Julie Lillis, Ray & Cyndy Larson, Larry Vietmeier, Cheryl Kampa, Isaac Abeln, Josh Larson, Tony Isabee, Ted Dickey, Lorie Gilchrist

Corey Mitchell called the meeting to order. He called for a motion to approve the agenda. Trevor Meints made a motion to approve the posted agenda. Meghan Butler seconded the motion. All in favor – motion carried. Corey Mitchell called for any conflict of interest on agenda items. There were no conflicts. Minutes were passed out from the May 3rd meeting. Cole Kampa made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Trevor Meints seconded the motion. All in favor – motion carried. Minutes were passed out from May 26th Special Council meeting. Meghan Butler made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Cole Kampa seconded the motion. All in favor – motion carried.

Warrant Vouchers: Jeremy Dosch – April wages – 419.99; Cara Dennert – April wages – 1235.25; Menards – supplies – 191.91; Web – fire prevention – 47.67; Dakota Electronics – siren repair – 225.05; Pomp's Tire Service – tire repair – 31.80; Running – shop supplies – 58.94; Agtegra – fuel – 918.20; Artz Equip. – repair on mower – 2325.84; Dacotah Bank – plants, fuel, 438.42; GDI- publication – 63.19; Northwestern Energy – 613.03; Cara Dennert – mileage to Finance Officer School – 183.60; JVT – 206.45, Dakota Resources – 1,879 – Community Coaching; Moser Excavating & Trucking – 14,841.86; B&B Contracting – 2130.00; Menards – shop supplies – 38.97 Cole Kampa made a motion to accept the vouchers as presented. Emily Eichler seconded the motion. All in favor – motion carried.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS / CORRESPONDENCE: phone call regarding dogs; e-mail and invoice from Paula Jensen

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – Ted Dickey discussed the situation regarding removing the underground tanks at the Raba residence. He talked about liability and the applications that will be signed by the Raba's & Corey Mitchell. DENR will then move ahead after the applications are approved. Corey asked for a motion to approve the signage of the applications. Trevor Meints made a motion. Emily Eichler seconded the motion. All were in favor – motion carried. Ray Larson has been asked by the Buntrock family to develop a Parks & Rec Committee. Kyburz-Carlson Construction has been paid off. He has been in contact with Luke Leshar to coordinate how he can help with the city park responsibilities. He said he will form a budget within the next 2 or 3 years so we will know how to move forward. Jeremy, Bob, and Luke will split up the mowing responsibilities. The Baseball Committee gave an update. They have been collecting monies for the advertising board. We will work out a lease agreement for the ball field and concession stand to be finalized next month with our lawyer present. There will be a final walk through of the parks and city council members on June 26th or 27th. There was some discussion on where memorials could be placed. The south city speed sign needs to be reinstalled now that construction is finished. There is also a need for a painted crosswalk and flashing lights. Surveillance cameras will be installed everywhere. The Columbia Social Committee presented a tentative schedule of events for Columbia Fest July 29th. There will be vendors present from 10 – 3. A parade will be held at 10:00 a.m. At 11:00 a.m. there will be a park dedication. From 12 – 3 pm there various ball games held. In the afternoon, there will a duck race and Harry Luge will perform. If anyone has any pictures of the events and or construction since the inception of our park projects – please send them to Julie Lillis. She is putting together a photo memorial gift for the Buntrock family. Emily gave us a Summer Rec update. She had 13 kids on the first day. They will meet every Tuesday in June and

July. She mentioned that Olivia Stiegelmeier would be interested in helping with the groups. The council was fine with that.

Nuisances – As discussed at our last meeting, we are updating our ordinances to include the following fees. Emily Eichler made a motion to set fines for chickens at \$50 per chicken per day, junk vehicles - \$100 per car per day plus cost of removal, junk in yards - \$75 per day plus cost of 3rd party clean up. Cole Kampa seconded the motion. All were in favor – motion carried. We will be sending letters and tagging vehicles.

Streets – B&B Contracting has been contacted to blade the streets. Shane Johnson will be bringing gravel this weekend. Our lawyer presented us with a petition for street vacation (triangular area near South Mill and East Townsend Ave.) He will publish the vacation. Cole Kampa made a motion to move forward with vacating the area. Emily Eichler seconded the motion. All were in favor – motion carried. The City Council will meet in 2 weeks to finalize the vacation (June 28th at 7pm)

Parks - no new report
Lagoon/sewer - Meghan needs to do last month's reading. The lagoon area has been sprayed for weeds.

Rubble Site – no report
NEW BUSINESS - Cole mentioned that we should make sure we are spraying for mosquitos right before Columbia Fest.

FINANCIAL REPORT – Cara Dennert presented bank balances. Emily Eichler made a motion to accept the financial reports as given. Meghan Butler seconded the motion. All were in favor – motion carried.

May 31, 2023 balances: SF - \$155,466.23; SF Money Market - \$50,193.45; GF - \$185,922.25; GF Money Market - \$50,193.45; CD Money Market - \$32,031.04; FIT - \$14,411.08; Cash on hand - \$0

Mayor Corey Mitchell declared the meeting adjourned.

Special Meeting of Council for vacating road – June 28th 7pm.

Next Regular City Council Meeting – July 12, 2023 7:00 p.m.

Submitted by Cara Dennert, Finance Officer

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Westport Town June 5, 2023

Meeting Minutes

Town of Westport General Meeting

June 5th, 2023

The Town of Westport met on June 5th, 2023 Larry Schmit, Shane Storm, Mitch Wilson and Doreen Hertel present.

The following expenses were presented:

City General
NWPS- electricity (\$581.43), Groton Independent-Newspaper minutes (\$14.62), Runnings – snow removal (\$1,000), Runnings – supplies (\$206.23), B&B contracting – sand (\$611.20), David's Lawn & snow- mowing cemetery (\$1,200.00), Payroll – Larry Schmit (\$150.00), Shane Storm (\$610.00), Mitch Wilson (\$400.00), & Doreen Hertel (\$1,640.00).

Sewer
NWPS-electricity (\$55.81), NRWA –loan repayment (\$210.13)
Water
WEB- water (\$2,039.21), Water Maintenance District-water sampling (\$459.18)

Shane Storm made motion to pay all bills; second by Larry Schmit.

The following deposits were presented:

City General
Brown County Collections (\$2,892.29), State of SD (\$4,478.85) & Interest (\$108.87).

Sewer
Resident Payments- (\$845.00).

Sewer Surcharge
Resident Payments (\$1,755.00)

Water
Resident Payments – (\$3,902.88).

NEW BUSINESS:
July meeting will be moved to July 5th at 7:00. The city will donate \$1,000.00 to the fireworks fund for June 24th.

Doreen Hertel, Finance Officer
Published June 21, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$17.38 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 22268

City Council

Continued from front

Ford the department has been having problems with.

Councilman Bahr told the council he and Councilman Kevin Nehls visited with Police Chief Stacy Mayou about the vehicle that has been causing problems for the department. The two councilmen took the vehicle on a drive, and weren't able to get it above 60 miles per hour.

"It needs a lot of help," Bahr said. "I mean, I drove it from the golf course to the clubhouse road, and we could only go 60."

The city has sunk a lot of money into repairs for the vehicle recently, and it's about time the police department looks into getting a replacement. Bahr asked the council to give the chief the OK to start looking for a different vehicle.

"I think we need to do it sooner rather than later," he said.

Mayor Hanlon said he would discuss options to trade in the vehicle or surplus it with the police chief.

In other action:

- Pickleball court repairs could be coming soon. Mayor Hanlon told the council the company that originally worked on the courts will come back at the end of August to fill cracks and make some repairs on the courts. He also said the city should have someone down at the courts while the contractor is there to supervise the process. "I told Paul 'when those guys come down, call me.'"

- City offices will be closed July 3 and 4 for the Independence Day holiday. The city council meeting originally scheduled for July 4 has been rescheduled for July 6.

- Enrich Groton SoDak Treasurer Nancy Larsen updated the council

on the new sound

system at the Groton City Park. The about \$22,000 project was

paid for by donors throughout the community. The equipment to utilize the

new sound system has been delivered to City Hall. Larsen recommended putting in

a right-to-use agreement that includes a deposit to make sure

equipment is returned in good working order.

- Councilwoman Karyn Babcock asked for more information

to be included on the bills presented to the council at its meetings. She said she would like to see

which departments the bills are coming from. "Just something

simple so we know where these bills are coming out of," she said.

- The council approved a \$30,000 change order from Dahme Construction Company for water

system improvements. The original contract price (\$1,218,797.89) was already decreased

to \$1,126,044.77 from a previous change order. Change order No. 2 increases

the contract price to \$1,156,542.60. Change order No. 2 covers a

bill from BNSF for a railroad flagger during installation of casing pipe under the railroad tracks.

- The council approved the second reading of an ordinance to reduce the

timeframe from when the city lets a resident know about a sewer requirement violation to when the city can begin assessing penalties.

Classifieds and Card of Thanks

The following rates are for Classifieds published in both the Groton Daily Independent and the Groton Independent. Cut rate in half if you just want it in the GDI or just the weekly.

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EMPLOYMENT

The CITY OF HOT SPRINGS is currently accepting applications for a FULL-TIME CITY ADMINISTRATOR. This position assumes full responsibility for planning, administering, directing, overseeing and evaluating the activities and operations of the City. Desired

minimum qualifications: high school diploma or GED equivalent; valid driver's license; Bachelor's degree in public administration, business administration, economics or related field. Three years of progressively responsible experience in municipal government. Formal City application, cover letter and resume required. Wage: \$45,760-\$57,200/annually-DOEQ. Benefit package includes: BC/BS Health, Dental, SD State Retirement, Vision, paid holidays, as well as sick and vacation leave. For a complete job description and application, visit www.hs-sd.org and search city employment opportunities.

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Despite Collecting 11 Hits, Groton Locke Electric Falls to Northville

Groton Locke Electric fell 5-4 to Northville on Sunday despite out-hitting them 11 to eight.

Northville got on the board in the second inning. Mcsoleman singled on a 1-2 count, scoring one run.

Waltman led things off on the mound for Northville. The ace lasted three innings, allowing seven hits and three runs while striking out three.

Groton Locke Electric tallied 11 hits in the game. Austin Jones, Alex Morris, Dalton Locke, and Brian Hansen each had multiple hits for Groton Locke Electric. Jones went 3-for-4 at the plate to lead Groton Locke Electric in hits. Groton Locke Electric was sure-handed in the field and didn't commit a single error. Spencer Locke had the most chances in the field with 15.

Northville tallied eight hits. Maxfield, Faon-elua, and Stahl each collected multiple hits for Northville.

Jr. Legion scores nine runs in first inning to run past Britton

Groton Jr. Legion scored nine runs in the first inning to breeze past Britton in baseball action played Saturday in Groton, 17-5.

Gavin Englund hit a two RBI double after the first two batters were walked in the bottom of the first inning. Jarrett Erdmann then hit an RBI single to give Groton a 3-0 lead. Groton would score six runs with two outs that included a three RBI double by Braxton Imrie, an RBI single by Englund, one score with bases loaded on a walk and one score with a hit by pitch with bases loaded.

Britton scored four runs in the top of the third inning to make it 9-4.

Englund would have another RBI single in the bottom of the third. Nick Morris hit a sacrifice fly to center field to score two runs. Karsten Flihs and Caden McInerney each had an RBI single as Groton took a 14-4 lead after three innings.

Britton would score once in the top of the fourth inning, but Groton would get more runs in the bottom of the inning as Englund, Erdmann and Morris would each have an RBI single.

Groton scored 17 runs on 15 hits and had one error. Britton scored five runs on eight hits and had three errors.

Englund and Imrie each had doubles for Groton. Imrie had two stolen bases while Brevin Flihs and Erdmann each had one.

Karsten Flihs was the winning pitcher in three innings with six hits, five runs, four walks and two strike-outs. Nick Morris also pitched with two hits and two strike-outs in two innings. Morris and Flihs also traded as catchers.

Groton Jr. Teeners Claims Blow Out Win Over Britton Thanks to Second Inning Boost

Groton Jr. Teeners knocked in nine runs in the second on its way to a 16-1 victory over Britton on Saturday. Groton Jr. Teeners's big bats in the inning were led by singles by Lincoln Krause, Alex Abeln, TC Schuster, Easton Weber, and Nick Groeblichhoff, a walk by Braeden Flihs, a triple by Krause, and by Ethan Kroll.

Groton Jr. Teeners got on the board in the first inning. Ryder Schelle grounded out, scoring one run.

Groton Jr. Teeners scored nine runs in the second inning. Krause, Flihs, Abeln, Schuster, Weber, and Kroll each had RBIs in the frame.

Groeblichhoff earned the victory on the pitcher's mound for Groton Jr. Teeners. The

rightly allowed five hits and one run over four innings, striking out eight.

Mitch Burger took the loss for Britton. The bulldog surrendered nine runs on seven hits over one and one-third innings.

Groton Jr. Teeners totaled 17 hits in the game. Abeln, Schuster, Tristin McGannon, Krause, Kroll, and Groeblichhoff all managed multiple hits for Groton Jr. Teeners. Schuster and Abeln each collected three hits to lead Groton Jr. Teeners. Groton Jr. Teeners tore up the base paths, as two players stole at least two bases. Schuster led the way with two.

Colton Chapin led Britton with two hits in two at bats.

Groton Legion Nabs Win Over Sisseton Despite Early 3-Run Inning

Despite allowing three runs in the third inning, Groton Legion Post 39 defeated Sisseton Post 50 18-3 on Wednesday. The big inning for Sisseton Post 50 came thanks to by Landyn Steichen, by Julius Cloud, and an error on a ball put in play by Konnor Sieber.

In the first inning, Groton Legion Post 39 got their offense started. Tate Larson's sac fly scored one run for Groton Legion Post 39.

Groton Legion Post 39 put up eight runs in the third inning. The offensive onslaught came from an error on a ball put in play by Colby Dunker, Cole Simon, and Larson and doubles by Korbin Kucker and Bradin Althoff.

Larson was the winning pitcher for Groton Legion Post 39. The pitcher went three innings, allowing three runs on one hit and striking out two. Dunker threw one inning in relief out of the bullpen.

Sieber took the loss for Sisseton Post 50. The righthander allowed three hits and eight runs over two innings, striking out one.

Braxton Imrie, Brevin Flihs, Kucker, Simon, Larson, Ryan Groeblichhoff, and Althoff each collected one hit to lead Groton Legion Post 39.

Carter Stickland went 1-for-2 at the plate to lead Sisseton Post 50 in hits.

Groton Jr. Legion Claims Lead in Fourth Inning to Defeat Sisseton

Groton Post 39 Jr. Legion nabbed the lead late in the game in a 12-5 victory over Sisseton Post 50 on Thursday. The game was tied at five with Groton Post 39 Jr. Legion batting in the top of the fourth when Brevin Flihs doubled on the first pitch of the at bat, scoring one run.

Sisseton Post 50 scored three runs in the second inning, but Groton Post 39 Jr. Legion still managed to pull out the victory. LJ Crooks and Max Dahlen all contributed in the big inning with RBIs.

Groton Post 39 Jr. Legion got things started in the first inning when Caden McInerney reached on a dropped third strike.

Sisseton Post 50 evened things up at five in the bottom of the third inning.

Groton Post 39 Jr. Legion scored five runs in the fifth inning. Groton Post 39 Jr. Legion's offense in the inning came from a single by Jarrett Erdmann and a fielder's choice by Kellen Antonsen.

Erdmann was credited with the victory for Groton Post 39 Jr. Legion. The pitcher surrendered five runs on four hits over three innings, striking out seven. Carter Simon threw two innings in relief out of the bullpen.

Bradley Hansen took the loss for Sisseton Post 50. The pitcher lasted five innings, allowing eight hits and nine runs while striking out 11 and walking one.

Hayden Hellwig started the game for Sisseton Post 50. Hellwig allowed three runs on one hit

Groton Post 39 Jr. Legion had nine hits in the game. Flihs and Erdmann all managed multiple hits for Groton Post 39 Jr. Legion. Flihs went 3-for-4 at the plate to lead Groton Post 39 Jr. Legion in hits. Korbin Kucker led Groton

Post 39 Jr. Legion with three stolen bases, as they ran wild on the base paths with seven stolen bases.

Sisseton Post 50 saw the ball well today, racking up six hits in the game. Hansen and Dahlen each had multiple hits for Sisseton Post 50.

Groton Jr. Teeners Can't Erase 5-Run Deficit in Loss to Aberdeen Smittys

Groton Jr. Teeners fought back after falling down by five runs in the fourth inning. The comeback fell just short though, in a 7-5 defeat to Aberdeen Smittys on Monday. Groton Jr. Teeners scored three runs in the failed comeback on a walk by Ethan Kroll, a groundout by Alex Abeln, and a double by Ryder Schelle.

Groton Jr. Teeners got things started in the first inning when Austin Fisher induced Braeden Flihs to hit into a fielder's choice, but one run scored.

Aberdeen Smittys pulled away for good with three runs in the second inning. In the second Wheeler Malsam singled on a 2-1 count, scoring one run, Jamison Opp singled on a 2-2 count, scoring one run, and Bennett Eisenbeisz doubled on a 1-0 count, scoring one run.

Groton Jr. Teeners notched three runs in the sixth inning. Kroll, Abeln, and Schelle all moved runners across the plate with RBIs in the inning.

Fisher earned the victory on the mound for Aberdeen Smittys. The fireballer went three innings, allowing two runs on two hits and striking out two. Joe Cogley threw three innings in relief out of the bullpen.

TC Schuster took the loss for Groton Jr. Teeners 14U. The righthander went four innings, allowing seven runs on eight hits and striking out two.

Kroll, Easton Weber, and Schelle all had one hit to lead Groton Jr. Teeners 14U.

Aberdeen Smittys tallied eight hits in the game. Malsam and Eisenbeisz each racked up multiple hits for Aberdeen Smittys. Aberdeen Smittys didn't commit a single error in the field. Thomas Severson had seven chances in the field, the most on the team.

Groton Jr. Teeners Clinches Lead in Fourth Inning for Victory Over Aberdeen Smittys

Groton Jr. Teeners snagged a late lead and defeated Aberdeen Smittys 7-5 on Tuesday. The game was tied at four with Groton Jr. Teeners batting in the top of the fourth when Ethan Kroll doubled on a 2-2 count, scoring one run.

Aberdeen Smittys scored four runs in the second inning, but Groton Jr. Teeners still managed to pull out the victory. Joe Cogley, Cowboy Haskell, Bradon Heuer, and Bennett Eisenbeisz all moved runners across the plate with RBIs in the inning.

In the top of the third inning, Groton Jr. Teeners tied things up at four when Drake Soderlund induced TC Schuster to hit into a fielder's choice, but one run scored.

Karson Zak was the winning pitcher for Groton Jr. Teeners 14U. The pitcher went four innings, allowing five runs on five hits. Alex Abeln threw one inning in relief out of the bullpen. Abeln recorded the last three outs to earn the save for Groton Jr. Teeners 14U.

Soderlund took the loss for Aberdeen Smittys. The hurler surrendered seven runs on six hits over three innings, striking out three.

Groton Jr. Teeners collected seven hits. Ryder Schelle and Kroll all had multiple hits for Groton Jr. Teeners 14U. Schelle went 3-for-3 at the plate to lead Groton Jr. Teeners in hits. Groton Jr. Teeners didn't commit a single error in the field. Schuster had five chances in the field, the most on the team.

Heuer led Aberdeen Smittys with two hits in three at bats.



A steady stream of people attended the Groton Community Transit Fundraiser held Thursday at the Groton Community Center. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Scott Kettering, Travis McGannon and Joel Bierman were some of the helpers at the Groton Community Transit fundraiser held Thursday at the Groton Community Center. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Hope Block and Diane Warrington dress up their burgers at the Transit Fundraiser. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Pictured L to R: Clara Nolz, Mary Kay Kessler, Jackie Witlock, Aubrey O'Connel, Sharon Zastrow, Cyndy Larson. (Courtesy Photo Alexa Schuring)

Olive Grove Ladies Invitational Tournament Championship Flight

- 72 – Jackie Witlock and Aubrey O'Connel
- 76 – Suzie Easthouse and Angel McGregor
- 80 – Lyla Bultema and Dorene Borchard
- 80 – Lori Kulesa and Madonna Eckert
- 85 – Ellen Renner and Terri Holmes

First Flight

- 81 – Cyndy Larson and Sharon Zastrow
- 84 – Haley Ellingson and Ashley Foster
- 84 – Cherry Baker and Chelle Naber
- 87 – Betty Dunker and Ranae Ball
- 90 – Brenda Waage and Sue Stanley

Second Flight

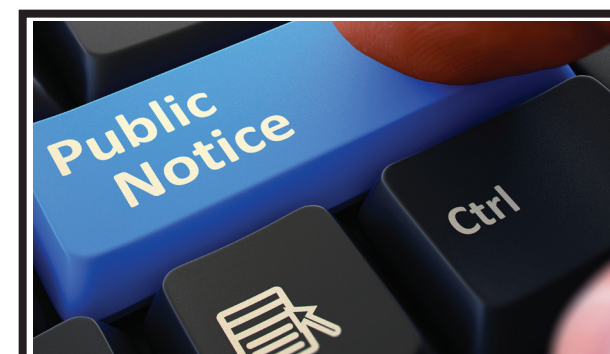
- 91 - Clara Nolz and MaryKay Kessler
- 92 – Mavis Rossow and Sharon Sombke
- 96 – Julie Hinds and Denise Raap
- 98 – Deb Fredrickson and Michelle Johnson
- 110 – Katelyn Giedt and Betsy Harry
- 133 – Vicky Kramp and Jolene Townsend

Pin Prizes

- Hole #4 Closest to the Pin – MaryKay Kessler
- Hole #2 Longest Drive – Angel McGregor
- Hole #9 Longest Putt – Ranae Ball (17'10")



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All of the public notices now appearing in the Groton Independent are posted on-line at **sdpublicnotices.com**. There are a number of search options available. To see the notices published in the Groton Independent, select **THE GROTON INDEPENDENT** and then search

Groton Chamber of Commerce June 7

- Individuals present: Carol Kutter, April Abeln, Ashley Bentz and Kellie Locke.
- Minutes from the previous meeting were approved on a motion by Locke and seconded by Bentz. All members voted aye.
- Treasurer's report was given. Dacotah Bank checking account balance is \$40,906.98. \$2,059.40 is currently in the Chamber Bucks account. Report was approved by Locke and seconded by Abeln. All members voted aye.
- Thank you notes were received from the Groton Chamber Scholarship winners and Enrich Groton SoDak, Inc.
- Email motion by Locke and seconded by Bentz was made on 5/17/23 to pay the \$100 sponsorship to the Groton Baseball/ Softball Foundation for livestreaming Big League baseball games. All members voted aye.
- A new sponsorship sign is being made for the Baseball Complex as ours was ruined and/or lost.
- A Facebook post was done highlighting our involvement in the Lit Drop asking individuals to post selfies with our rack cards with #eat-shopbuylocal57445. Post will be shared each month and boosted for \$50 August 1 with a winner drawn at random on September 1. Winner will win \$50 in Chamber Bucks.
- T-shirt order forms are currently boosted on Facebook and are due July 1.
- Motion by Bentz and seconded by Locke to donate \$500 to Enrich Groton SoDak, Inc. for the park sound system. All members voted aye.
- Motion by Abeln and seconded by Bentz to donate \$50 Chamber Bucks, a tumbler and shirt as a giveaway basket for the water tower ribbon cutting event 7/20/23. All members voted aye.
- Motion by Abeln and seconded by Locke to donate a new t-shirt as a prize for drawings at the Sip and Shop event (7/20/23) and Family Fun Night (8/10/23). All members voted aye.
- Abeln will work on compiling the SD Magazine ad for the Sep/Oct edition prior to June 30th deadline.
- Chamber member, Katelyn Nehlich was able to donate \$300 to the Chamber through Dacotah Bank's Give Where We Live program. Motion by Abeln and seconded by Locke to add this donation to our Main Street bench fund. All members voted aye.
- Motion by Locke and seconded by Bentz to donate a \$50 Chamber Bucks and tumbler giveaway basket for the Olive Grove Spring Fundraiser on 6/9/23. All members voted aye.
- Abeln stated that she will complete the Groton Chamber Annual Report and 990N.
- Next Meeting is July 5th at City Hall @ noon BYOL
- Upcoming events
 - 06/09/2023 OGGC Spring Fundraiser
 - 06/10/2023 U8 Youth Baseball Tourney
 - 06/15/2023 Transit Fundraiser at the Community Center 4-7pm (Thursday Mid-June)
 - 06/16/2023 SDSU Alumni & Friends Tourney at Olive Grove Golf Course 12pm Shotgun Start
 - 06/17/2023 Groton Triathlon 9am-12pm
 - 06/24/2023 Avantara Summer Event
 - 06/24/2023 U10 Youth Baseball Tourney
 - 06/25/2023 U12 Youth Baseball Tourney
 - 06/29/2023 JVT Blood Drive at the Community Center 11am-7pm
 - 07/04/2023 Firecracker Couples Tourney at Olive Grove Golf Course 9am Registration 10am Start
 - 07/09/2023 Lion's Club Summer Fest/Car Show at the City Park 9am-4pm (Sunday Mid-July)
 - 07/20/2023 Pro Am Tourney at Olive Grove Golf Course
 - 07/20/2023 Ribbon Cutting at the New Water Tower 11:30am
 - 07/20/2023 Open House light lunch sponsored by IMEG at City Hall 12-1:30pm
 - 07/20/2023 Summer Downtown Sip & Shop 5-8pm
 - 07/21/2023 Ferney Open Golf Tourney at Olive Grove Golf Course 9am Start
 - 07/26/2023 Groton Golf Association Fundraiser Lunch at Olive Grove Golf Course 11:30am-1pm

Dear EarthTalk: How is America's outdated power grid inhibiting efforts to fight climate change? -- Jim S., Milwaukee, WI

Our outdated power grid is indeed a significant hindrance to efforts to combat climate change. One of the key issues is the grid's limited capacity to integrate renewable energy sources (solar, wind, etc.), a needed step if we're to make the transition to a clean energy economy. Today's grid is made up of a patchwork of local and regional interests often at odds with one another and developed to process locally sourced coal and gas into electricity that rarely gets transported more than a few dozen miles away.

To take full advantage of renewables, these local and regional utilities need to coordinate on the production and placement of thousands of miles of new high voltage transmission lines that could send electricity generated by wind and solar for thousands of miles across multiple grid regions. But without clear financial incentives, utilities aren't in any rush to pursue such endeavors.

A key challenge of renewable energy generation is its intermittency. Solar and wind power is variable depending on weather conditions, making it essential to have a grid capable of balancing supply and demand in real-time. An outdated grid with limited energy storage capacity and transmission capability can't effectively manage the fluctuations in renewable energy production. So renewable energy gets wasted while the grid keeps using fossil fuels to meet demand during times of low renewable generation.

Moreover, an outdated power grid falls short in integrating electric vehicles (EVs) into the transportation sector, a crucial component of efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. EV adoption is on the rise, but the existing grid is ill-equipped to support a widespread charging infrastructure. This hinders the growth of the EV market. To fully realize the potential of EVs as a climate solution, a grid must be able to support increased demand from charging stations and manage the associated load fluctuations.

Outdated power grid vulnerabilities are further exacerbated by the increasing frequency and intensity of extreme weather events linked to climate change. Aging infrastructure is more susceptible to damage from storms, hurricanes and wildfires, resulting in prolonged power outages and disruptions. These events not only have immediate impacts on public safety and health but also impede climate change mitigation efforts by hampering renewable energy generation and slowing down the restoration of power supply.

To address these challenges, significant investments in grid modernization are essential. Upgrading the power grid to a smart grid, equipped with advanced sensors, automation and two-way communication can enhance grid resilience and flexibility. Smart grid technologies enable real-time monitoring and response, optimizing electricity distribution, and facilitating the integration of renewable energy sources. Additionally, expanding energy storage infrastructure, such as battery systems, can help mitigate the intermittency of renewable energy generation and provide backup power during outages.



One issue with our grid is that the transmission lines across the U.S. weren't designed to carry renewable energy long distances. Credit: Pexels.com.

EarthTalk® is produced by Roddy Scheer & Doug Moss for the 501(c)3 nonprofit EarthTalk. See more at <https://emagazine.com>. To donate, visit <https://earthtalk.org>. Send questions to: question@earthtalk.org.

Coping with the "out of our control" reality of Agriculture

Marrying a farm kid has shown me the immense amount of pride

in being part of the Ag community. It is prevalent that the agricultural profession, while rewarding, is challenging. Running big dollar operations that are both physically and mentally demanding creates some serious strain on our mental health. Whether it's a co-op employee spraying chemicals or spreading fertilizer for 70+ hours a week or a farmer during planting or harvest, the demand never truly stops.

In my practice I talk a lot about focusing on what is within our control. I can control the way I cope in a situation, but I cannot control how someone else chooses to cope. Likewise, I can control my choices on what products I utilize in my operation, but some things are simply out of my control, like grain and livestock prices, or the unpredictable weather of the Midwest. The livelihood of Ag operations and families balances on influences out of our control. We are forced to leave many factors up to chance, and that creates a lot of pressure.

When we focus on things out of our control, we can start to experience negative mental health impacts. During times of stress, our body releases hormones to help regulate our stress responses. We experience toxic stress when our body is constantly releasing stress hormones into our body, which can create negative effects on our health. Starting in childhood and throughout our life, we learn mechanisms to help ourselves cope during stressful experiences.

In Agriculture there are many things outside of our control. So, what can we control? We can control how we choose to take care of ourselves and whether we use healthy coping mechanisms to manage stress. Healthy mechanisms might include exercise, healthy diets, spending time outside, mindfulness, relaxation, quality time with loved ones, or taking time to do things we enjoy. Likewise, when we are experiencing high stress moments, it is okay to step away from machinery, our phone, or other people for short periods of time. This is an example of one healthy coping skill to take care of ourselves in those moments.

There is no shame in seeking support. If you or someone you know is struggling, please reach out:

- Avera Farm and Rural Stress Hotline at 1-800-691-4336.
- Dial 2-1-1 to be connected to the Helpline Center for additional resources based on your community.
- Call or text 9-8-8 anytime to be connected to a professional crisis counselor for free.

The old adage goes, "pull yourself up by your bootstraps and deal with it." Mental health stigma still exists, but how wonderful would life be if we learned to pair our Midwestern resilience with taking care of ourselves and showing others it's okay to need and accept support? Don't wait to take care of yourself. Your family, your legacy, and YOU deserve a healthy you.

Curstie Konold, MPH, CSW, QMHP is the Outpatient Clinical Mental Health Therapist Avera Medical Group Behavioral Health Brookings Clinic. Follow The Prairie Doc® at www.prairiedoc.org and on Facebook featuring On Call with the Prairie Doc® a medical Q&A show based on science, built on trust for 21 seasons, streaming live on Facebook and SDPB most Thursdays at 7 p.m. central.



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